Miles Mayhew - Environmental Critical Areas Review

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To: <miles.mayhew@seattle.gov>

Date: 1/21/2004 11:15 AM

Subject: Environmental Critical Areas Review

Dear Miles:

From my experience with a Citizen's Committee working to preserve as much as possible of Westcrest Park and also in Alki to do likewise on the Open Space acquired from from the 1989 Open Space Bond issue, some of us are concerned about conflict of interests of the City when two departments want to do something in City Public Space in Critical En. Areas.

It was our experience that the Lead City Dept. and DCLU (at that time) found it difficult to be as objective with their colleagues in looking at the Threshold for determining whether an EIS might be required. We believed that the City should apply the same environmental standards to public lands in Environmental critical areas as it applies to private lands in ECA. In both cases, there was a declaration of non-significance, and consequently more public space threatened to be lost.

We are not suggesting that there should be an EIS, (expensive and time consuming), but a mediation conference with some community members invited.

Reference: See LWVS REPORT Keeping the Green In Seattle -- 2000. Alix Pye

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